

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-10, 60, 62, 63, and 66-69 stand rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by U. S. Patent No.5,287,214 by Robertson et. al. (Robertson). Claims 2, 5, 6, 11-28, 61, 64, 65, and 70-87 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 29-59 stand allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 2, 3, 5-13, 61, 62, and 66-72 have been amended. Please cancel claims 1 and 60 without prejudice.

The Examiner stated Claims 2, 5, 6, 11-28, 61, 64, 65, and 70-87 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, and Claim 61 have been rewritten in independent form without changing the scope of these claims. Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the application of the doctrine equivalents.

Given that claims 3, 4, and 7-10 depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 2, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 3, 4, and 7-10 also patentably distinguish over the cited art. Given that claims 14-28 depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 13, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 14-28 also patentably distinguish over the cited art. Given that claims 62-87

depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 61, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 62-87 also patentably distinguish over the cited art.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-10, 60, 62, 63, and 66-69 stand rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by U. S. Patent No.5,287,214 by Robertson. Claims 1 and 60 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, and Claim 61 have been rewritten in independent form without changing the scope of either claim. Given that claims 3, 4, and 7-10 depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 2, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 3, 4, and 7-10 also patentably distinguish over the cited art. Given that claims 14-28 depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 13, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 14-28 also patentably distinguish over the cited art. Given that claims 62-87 depend from and include the limitations of independent claim 61, applicants respectfully submit that that claims 62-87 also patentably distinguish over the cited art.

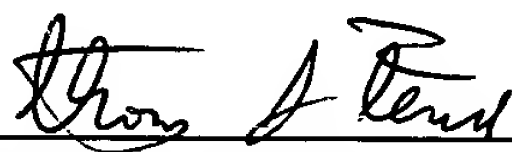
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the rejections and objections have been overcome. An Information Disclosure Statement was submitted with the amendment mailed May 16, 2003. Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the application of the doctrine equivalents. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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